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GREAT GALE

DESTRUCTION NEAR MELBOURNE

UNPRECEDENTED FORCE OF WIND.

TWO DEATHS AND MANY INJURED

MELBOURNE, Sunday. — A back from the street with an array of pine trees leading to the front gate. No less than twenty-four of these trees were torn up by the most furious windstorm experienced in Australia since meteorological records have been kept.

The area affected was, fortunately, limited to a fairly narrow strip, but within that strip the passage of the wind was marked by a trail of collapsed or damaged houses, uprooted trees, and broken roofs. Some fell against the house, but beyond smashing the ridging, have done little damage.

A "LINE STORM."

The Commonwealth meteorologist (Mr. Hunt) points out in an interview that the storm was neither a cyclone nor a tornado.

It was a scene of extraordinary devastation. So far as has yet been reported only two deaths occurred as the result of the storm. He gives it the technical name of a "line storm." Mr. Hunt says that so great was the velocity of the wind that it formed an air buffer when it struck an obstacle and

storm, but many people were injured more or less seriously. The casualties known are as follow:--

KILLED.

FRANK GREEN, 14, of Chetwyn-street, North Melbourne, almost decapitated.

G. M. EDDY, of Sydney, drowned at St. Kilda.

INJURED.

WINNIE KENDALL, aged 6 years, Wellington street, Brighton, broken arm.

F. J. BROWN, Scott's, Moffat-street, Brighton, broken arm.

THOMAS W. STILLMAN, New-street, Brighton, bone of right arm splintered.

D. P. NICHOLSON, Tourist, Kaysers, 10, Victoria street, Brighton, from hip.

W. MENARDI, Albert Park, exhaustion, bruises and shock from immersion.

WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION.

The meteorological conditions which accompanied the storm were such as had never been experienced in Australia before. Fairly early on Saturday afternoon the whole sky became overcast and a heavy rain fell on the heads of the poorer people. It is understood that a movement is already on foot to afford them

NARROW ESCAPES.

Mr. Harry Wilson, a well-known mining man, is the tenant, and he tells of two miraculous escapes. His niece was milking a cow in the house when a violent storm came. The milkmaid rose from her seat and, handing the milk pail to her

A quarter of an hour later, with scarcely a warning sound, a gale of unprecedented violence burst upon the island. The wind howled in the bays, stripped the roof of a large portion of the main building, lifted up a small retirement store bodily, hurled it 40 yards across the road, and passed on to demolish the buildings for more than two miles inland.

The moment it struck the mainland the air became thick with flying bits, sheets of galvanized iron, branches of trees, and other debris. The wind was so strong that it carried the air, and there are authenticated cases of heavy beams being carried more than 100 yards before they fell to earth. Those who moved bodily, Chinese and foreigners alike, were blown off their feet, and the houses themselves proved unable to stand against the

Women became hysterical, and many although not physically hurt, were shocked and distressed by the scene. Windrows crawled in under the weight of the wind or were broken by flying missiles, and through every gap in the roof or window that the storm made, rain poured in. The rain, causing that was proofed was also proofed, causing serious damage to carpets.

The three or four minutes during which the storm was so threatening, then it passed away as suddenly as it had come, leaving its work many stricken homes and a desolated landscape, with scarcely a whole tree left standing.

ESTIMATE OF DAMAGE.

It was in the first burst of the storm that six years' old zone upstairs in her bedroom broke in two, and she fell. The next instant a plank above the girl struck the house, and the outside wall collapsed upon her, letting the ceiling down with it. She was half buried in the debris, and her escape from death was wonderful. The maid with great courage extricated her. The child sustained a broken leg.

Mrs. H. Ogde Moore and her daughter, who

The two fatalities occurred. Fortunately, live in New-street, had a remarkable escape. There were no other deaths directly attributable. A heavy raft from the home opposite was able to ride the wind, but it would be impossible to say by what wind and damage Mrs. Moore sustained during the short time that the storm Moore's house struck. It fell between Mrs. Moore's raft. Nor is it possible to form a correct estimate of the damage done to property, a hole in the floor between them indicated that \$100,000 may be regarded as well within what their fate would have been had they been struck by the same wind.

M. H. FORDMAN

REMARKABLE ASPECTS.

One of the most remarkable aspects of the storm was the lack of uniformity with which it was suffered. The blow seemed to split up into tongues, which followed fairly well-defined courses. Along those courses was devastation. Between them there was little or no damage. The boats escaped almost everywhere. At Brighton Beach almost every

For half an hour or so before the storm burst the wind had been rising steadily, and at 10 o'clock it was blowing from the north-east. The first serious damage was that of the wrecking of a boat containing three men owing to its being dashed against Hogarth's Baths. Members of the dingy club at that time were in the boat. Their lives were in jeopardy with considerable diffi-

house within a fairly narrow range of severity, but that the Royal Terminus Hotel and Wellington House were the three which showed any effects of the storm. Even in Wellington-street, where one of the worst damage was done, the houses on the south side, with the exception of the Royal Terminus Hotel, were the loss of a few shingles. Between Wellington-street and Chancery-street, however, the damage was more severe, and the roof of the house at the corner of the latter street and the Victoria Hotel was blown away, and the roof of the house at the corner of the latter street and the Victoria Hotel was blown away, and the roof of the house at the corner of the latter street and the Victoria Hotel was blown away.

The terrific force of the wind is indicated by the fate of a large iron sewer ventilator at Brighton Beach. Although its rounded surface offered practically no resistance to the wind the pressure was so intense that it snapped across like a twig.

SCENE OF GENERAL WRECKAGE.

Damage estimated at from \$200 to \$300. The beach, where windmill reared to a pump was crumpled like a matchbox. A row of bathing boxes on the south side was razed, and part of the roof of the main structure was lifted. The roof of a great shed at the Birmingham railway line. A café near the baths had the roof blown off. One woman was buried beneath the wreckage. When extri-

Further round the Esplanade towards Melbourne the Royal Terminus Hotel was severely damaged. This hotel was the shelter for a time for a number of bathers who escaped from the bath in their floating trunks, their clothes having disappeared when the bunks were swept into the sea. Everywhere around the Brighton Beach railway station was a scene

The right point was bumped off near the bridge as neatly as if it had been severed with an ax. The debris caused a blockage on the line to Sandinham, and this was not until the small army of men had been spread to the right of the station it compassed the Brighton recreation reserve, and left the howling, croquet, and cricket clubs with masses of rubble where their clubs had been. The debris was then piled on across the road, leaving the boy

ner of Stanley and Hampton streets, owned dead where he had been struck. His com-
pany Mr. J. McKennie, was damaged to the ex-
tent of £500 or £600. The roof was shat-
tered, the garden was laid bare, and the
every room more or less was affected. Also and bruised, and his benefactors placed him
in Hampton street is a house standing well in the train for Melbourne.

LONDON, Feb. 3.

Only one-half of the New South Wales loan is being underwritten, as it is expected the majority of holders will convert.

The "Times" commenting on the New South Wales loan says: It is not obvious why a renewal operation has been undertaken fully

MELBOURNE, Sunday.

The Rev. Father G. van Damme, a Belgian Roman Catholic priest, has arrived in Mel-

six months before necessary, as it is expensive to anticipate requirements, and the interest to be paid will be 2½ per cent. more than the existing issue.

The "Financial News" says: It is evident that responsible authorities do not anticipate favourable opportunities for borrowing in six months.

bours to collect money in Australia for Cardinal Mercier's Belgian Relief Fund. Father van Baume escaped with difficulty from Belgium to Holland, and has since lectured in Ireland and Western Canada.

FAMOUS FUGILIST DEAD.

WATERFORD CLAIMANT FAILS.
 LONDON, Feb. 2.
 The Court dismissed the case of George Hereford (or John Tooth), in which the plaintiff asked for a declaration that he was the lawful son of the fifth Marquis of Waterford.
 A message from Abington, Massachusetts, reports the sudden death of John L. Sullivan, pugilist.

The respondents alleged that the claimant was the natural son of Georgina Tooth. The Court decided that the plaintiff was not the son of Lady Waterford.

Eleven bishops assisted at the consecration of Dr. Hanson as Bishop of Hereford, at Westminster Abbey.

AUSTRALIAN WEATHER

WIND.

Direction shown by arrow flying with the tail	Force indicated by number
Light Breeze	1
Light to Strong	2
Breeze	3
Strong Gale	4
Heavy Gale	5
Thunder Storm	6

WEATHER.

When shown	Clear	18
Cloudy	①	19
Rain	⊖	20
Snowing	⊕	21
Hail	⊘	22
Fog	⊙	23
Sea	⊚	24

SEA.

Smooth Sea	5
Moderate	6
Rough	7
Very Rough	8

RELATIVELY HIGH PRESSURE OVER THE BIG HORN MOUNTAINS AND SOUTH QUEENSLAND. RELATIVELY LOW PRESSURE OVER THE BIGHT OF CARPENTARIA. A WEATHER FRONT WITH ASSOCIATED CLOUDS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE THE WEATHER SHOULD BECOME HOT AND HUMID WITH RAINFALL UNDESIRABLE AND ISOLATED STRONG LOCAL STORMS ARE POSSIBLE WITH ABATING SQUALLS.

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AND INTERSTATE.

ARRIVALS.—Feb. 8.
From the Cape Horn, from Newcastle, 1st. agents.
From the Manaburu River: D. & Queen Bee, & Yulco, & 1st. agents.
From the North Coast: and 1st. agents.
Feb. 8.
From Melbourne, 1st. agents.
From the Queenstown, Captain Tye, from Queenstown, 1st. agents.
From the Clarendon, 1st. agents.
From the Marley River, 1st. agents.
From the North Coast, 1st. agents.

ARTICLES.—Feb. 8.
From Melbourne, 1st. agents.
From the North Coast, 1st. agents.

DEPARTURES.—Feb. 8.
To Melbourne and Inverport: Melbourne, & 1st. agents.
To the Bellarine River: Gumbur, & 1st. agents.

Passenger's ship company.
University Club, North Coast, N. York, & 1st. agents.
Lithon, 1st. agents.
Rosa May Amster Club, N. York, & 1st. agents.
2nd. Time, 1st. agents.
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11th. Time, 1st. agents.
12th. Time, 1st. agents.

THE M.

THUR. 10.

South Australia.—6 p.m.
Victoria.—5 p.m. and 8 p.m.
New Zealand.—5 p.m. and 8 p.m.
The Harbor and the City of the Harbor.

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G FROM WHARFS.

ELLINGTON (N.Z.). Sunday
stated by the Wellington magis-
trating on the New Zealand
to £20,000 a year.



TWINNING.

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5.20 a.m.
5.21 a.m.

FROM THE EMERALDA
 Parked, Lind, a modern & wistful
 from the master of their ship
 and on arriving she will berth
 and on arriving she will berth

FROM MELBOURNE
 NEWCASTLE, Sunday
 arrived in Newcastle, New South
 and barge. She left Melbourne nine
 of the heavy weather sheltered in
 and barge.

DALEY'S TURF
 and J. J. Daley, Mayor, J. and
 at Woodley's Laid, undergoing
 will to her husband, the late
 with a view to the late
 are now a new lot for their
 with a view to the late
 docked, and fitted with powerful

CLARKE'S CLEARANCE
 and J. J. Daley, Mayor, J. and
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 are now a new lot for their
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 NEW
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1	Our Aerial
2	Personal
3	Philharmonic

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ADVERTISEMENT.

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